

### **Amendments to the Claims**

1. (ORIGINAL)            A backlight device comprising:  
                         light guide means, having a pair of main faces facing each other and edge faces, for guiding the light from a light source arranged at one edge face;  
                         luminance-viewing angle improvement means, arranged on the side of one main face, emitting the light in a substantially normal direction to said main face and a direction of having a predetermined angle to the normal direction; and  
                         reflective means arranged on another main face of said light guide means. A backlight device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said luminance-viewing angle improvement means is asymmetric prism sheet having a plurality of projections.
2. (ORIGINAL)            A backlight device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said projections of said asymmetric prism sheet have a first base angle  $\alpha$  of  $75^\circ$  to  $90^\circ$  and a second base angle  $\beta$  of  $45^\circ$  to  $60^\circ$ .
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)            A backlight device as claimed in ~~claim 2 or 3~~claim 2, wherein said projections of said asymmetric prism sheet have a first base angle  $\alpha$  of  $85^\circ$  and a second base angle  $\beta$  of  $50^\circ$ .
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)            A backlight device as claimed in ~~claim 3 or 4~~, claim 3, wherein said first base angle  $\alpha$  of projections is positioned at the side of said light source.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)            A backlight device according to ~~anyone of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein diffusion means is arranged between said light guide means and said luminance-viewing angle improvement means.
6. (ORIGINAL)            A backlight device as claimed in claim 6, wherein a symmetric prism sheet, which has a plurality of projections, is arranged between said diffusion means and said luminance-viewing angle improvement means.
7. (ORIGINAL)            A backlight device as claimed in claim 7, wherein said asymmetric prism sheet is arranged such that a ridge of said asymmetric prism sheet is substantially perpendicular to a ridge of said symmetric prism sheet.
8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)            A liquid crystal display device comprising a backlight device as claimed in ~~anyone of claims 1 to 8~~claim 1.